

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Executive Order – 48

Agency Energy Management:

Does a CEM have to be a state employee or can it be a contractor?

Per the Executive Order, all agencies must have an Agency Energy Manager that is on staff and has to be a Certified Energy Manager by June 2008.

State Agency Energy Savings Goal:

How can agencies maintain the level of savings each year to 2010?

Savings must be maintained through the term of this Executive Order through FY 2010.

How will the Dominion rate increase affect savings?

Agencies should look at the energy cost increase as a benefit toward meeting your goals of avoided costs.

How can agencies purchase renewable energy?

There currently is no mechanism in place for agencies to purchase renewable energy. Agencies will be notified once options become available.

How can agencies take advantage of renewable credits (i.e. green tags)?

There currently is no mechanism in place for agencies to purchase renewable energy. Agencies will be notified once options become available.

Leased Facilities:

EO-48 does not address LEED certification level. What LEED certification level is required?

Per the Executive Order, “all agencies and institutions constructing state-owned facilities shall be designed and constructed consistent with the energy performance standards at least as stringent as the U.S. Green Building Council’s LEED rating system”. EO-48 does not give preference to any certification level.

Is there a list of existing ENERGY STAR or LEED buildings state agencies can obtain when reviewing and considering leased space?

Waiting on Liza Robison from DGS – Real Estate to answer this.

Transportation Energy Use:

Do hybrid vehicles count toward EO-48 savings goals?

Yes, if an agency were to purchase a hybrid vehicle, the associated gas costs savings would count toward an agency meeting its goal. However, the actual cost of the hybrid vehicle does not.

Does telecommuting also address teleconferencing?

Although not clearly defined in EO-48, teleconferencing is implied under “All agencies shall take necessary actions to minimize vehicle miles traveled related to state operations.” Increased use of video conferencing beyond what is currently being used can be counted toward and reported as energy savings.

Other:

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Will a template be made available for agencies to submit their reporting? When will the annual report be due to DMME?

Yes, DMME will be working on a template to circulate to state agencies to use for reporting. Reports will be due to DMME by Sept. 30 of each year.

How will EO-48 be reflected on the Agency Management Scorecard?

Progress towards meeting the energy-savings goals will be part of the Governor's Management Scorecard, Resource Stewardship objective.

Can public bodies (e.g. school districts) take advantage of state contracts?

Yes, currently public entities, such as school districts can take advantage of the state approved energy service performance contractors. For more information about how school districts can leverage energy performance contracting, visit the Dept of General Services web site -

<http://deb.dgs.virginia.gov/Contracts/Contracts-Details.asp?id=2>

Public entities can also leverage the existing State Contract with STAND Energy to purchase natural gas. To view the PDF contract, visit <http://dps.dgs.virginia.gov/DPS/Download/E194-206-1VAPPrev.pdf>